

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
Fruit and Vegetable Programs  
Processed Products Branch

FILE CODE  
105-A-15  
  
June 2006

Supersedes File Code Dated January 2004
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**SUBJECT: Visual Aids and Inspection Aids Approved For Use in Ascertaining  
Grades of Processed Fruits and Vegetables**

**TO: All Inspectors**

This File Code contains a list of approved visual aids and inspection aids that have been developed by Processed Products Branch. These aids are used for interpreting various quality factors in official U.S. grade standards. Prices and further information as to availability of these aids may be obtained from the authorized suppliers. Price and availability of any of the aids are subject to change without notice.

Further information as to interpretation or application of these aids in accordance with the U.S. grade standards and copies of the grade standards are available from:

Chief, Processed Products Branch  
Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, STOP 0247  
Washington, D.C. 20250-0247

Ph: (202) 720-4693  
Fax: (202) 690-1527

Terry B. Bane  
Branch Chief

Distribution:A  
Agriculture:Washington

## **I. USDA COLOR STANDARDS OR GUIDES**

### **LICENSED SUPPLIER**

Agtron, Inc.  
9395 Double R Boulevard  
Reno, Nevada 89511  
Telephone: (775) 850-4600  
Fax: (775) 850-4611

### **CANNED TOMATOES**

USDA color standard in the form of a plastic bar. The USDA color standard for canned tomatoes represents minimum red color requirements as specified in the U.S. Standards for Grades of Canned Tomatoes, U.S. Grade "C" or better. November 1956 edition.

Price: **\$52.50**

### **ORANGE JUICE (Processed)**

USDA color standards in the form of six plastic tubes. The USDA colors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 represent processed orange juice points of reference corresponding to the color scores 40 points through 32 points, respectively. The six tubes are available as a set in the 1983 edition.

Price: **\$315.00**

### **FROZEN RED TART CHERRIES**

USDA color standard in the form of a plastic bar. The USDA frozen red tart cherries color standard represents minimum red color requirements as specified in the U.S. Standards for Grades of Frozen Red Tart Pitted Cherries, U.S. Grade "A". October 1967 edition.

Price: **\$52.50**

### **CANNED SAUERKRAUT**

USDA color standards in the form of plastic textured discs. The USDA color standards for canned sauerkraut include limits for the predominating characteristic color and brightness of the product. The slightly greenish color in Grade B is represented by No. 1B, (Serial No. 12150) and the darkest limit of cream to light straw in Grade B is represented by No. 2, (Serial No. 12151). October 1957 edition.

Price: **\$105.00**

**LICENSED SUPPLIER**

GretagMacbeth™  
Munsell® Color Services  
617 Little Britain Road, Suite 102  
New Windsor, New York 12553-6148  
Telephone: (845) 565-7660 or  
1-800-622-2384  
Fax: (845) 565-2511

**FROZEN FRENCH FRIED POTATOES**

USDA Color Standards in the form of a printed one-page leaflet.  
Depicts a series of seven French fried potato units in graduated shades of "fry" color. For use in classifying color of frozen French fried potatoes, or other similarly fried products.  
Fourth edition, 1988  
Price: **\$119.50 pack of five**

**CANNED RIPE OLIVES**

USDA Color Standards in the form of a single bi-colored vinyl plate.  
Depicts the two appropriate USDA Composite Color Standards. For use in classifying color for canned ripe olives.  
Price: **\$63.00**

**TOMATO PRODUCTS** (Tomato Juice, Tomato Puree, Tomato Paste, Tomato Catsup)

USDA Color Standards in the form of two bi-colored vinyl plates. Represents selected minimum red color for USDA Composite Color Standards as specified in the U.S. Standards for Grades of tomato juice, tomato paste, tomato puree and tomato catsup grades "A" and "C". A spinner is not required to use this version of the tomato products color standards. Year 2000 edition.  
Price: **\$65.00**

USDA Color Standards in the form of color-proportioned spinner-disks, mounted on gray backing disks. The disks represent all minimum red colors as specified in the U.S. grade standards for the tomato products. Available as unmounted adjustable disks also.  
Price: **Call the supplier**

### **CANNED TOMATOES**

USDA Color Standard in the form of a vinyl plate. The USDA canned tomatoes color standard represents minimum red color requirements as specified in the U.S. Standards for Grades of Canned Tomatoes, U.S. Grade "C" or better. September 2002 edition.  
Price: **\$65.00**

### **CANNED PUMPKIN/SQUASH**

USDA Color Standards in the form of a bi-color vinyl plate. The USDA canned pumpkin and canned squash color standards represent minimum color requirements as specified in the U.S. Standards for Grades of Canned Pumpkin and U.S. Standards for Grades of Canned Squash, U.S. Grade "A" and "C". November 2002 edition.  
Price: **\$65.00**

### **FROZEN RED TART CHERRIES**

USDA Color Standard in the form of a vinyl plate. The USDA frozen red tart cherries color standard represents minimum red color requirements as specified in the U.S. Standards for Grades of Frozen Red Tart Pitted Cherries, U.S. Grade "A". May 2003 edition.  
Price: **\$65.00**

### **MAPLE SIRUP**

Metal comparator rack with plastic inserts for light amber, medium amber, and dark amber color standards as specified in the U.S. Standards for Grades of Maple Sirup, U.S. Grade "A". Sample bottles are included. September 2003 edition.  
Price: **\$125.00**

### **HONEY**

Two metal comparator racks with plastic inserts for water white, extra white, white, extra light amber, light amber, and amber color standards as specified in the U.S. Standards for Grades of Honey. Sample bottles are included. September 2003 edition.  
Price: **\$150.00**

## **MOLASSES**

Metal comparator rack with plastic inserts for No.1, No.2, and No.3 color standards as specified in the U.S. Standards for Grades of Molasses. Sample bottles are included. September 2003 edition.

Price: **\$125.00**

### **LICENSED SUPPLIER**

Visual Color Systems  
P.O. Box 93  
Mountaindale, New York 12763  
Ph: (845) 434-2646  
Fax: (845) 434-6115

## **APPLE BUTTER**

USDA Color Standards in the form of two bi-color vinyl plates. The USDA canned apple butter color standards represent minimum color requirements as specified in the U.S. Standards for Grades of Canned Apple Butter, U.S. Grade "A" and "C". August 2002 edition.

Price: **\$85.00**

## **CONTACT PROCESSED PRODUCTS BRANCH FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

### **FROZEN LIMA BEANS**

USDA Color Standards in the form of a bi-colored laminated color chip. Represents both Lima Bean Green and Lima Bean White (thin-seeded). For use in classifying color as specified in the U.S. Standards for Grades of Frozen Lima Beans, U.S. Grade "A", "B", and "C". May 1996 edition.

Price: **\$75.00**

### **CANNED LIMA BEANS**

USDA Color Standards in the form of a bi-colored plastic laminated color chip. Represents both Lima Bean Green and Lima Bean White. For use in classifying color for canned lima beans. August 2005 edition.

Price: **\$75.00**

### **CANNED MUSHROOMS**

USDA Color Standards in plastic 2 x 3 inch plates. Colors 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 representing cap and gill color, applicable to the U.S. Standards for Grades of Canned Mushrooms, White or Cream type, U.S. Grade "A" and "B". Available as a set. Year 1997 edition.  
Price: **\$115.00**

### **PEANUT BUTTER**

USDA Color Standards in plastic 2 x 3 inch plates. Colors 1, 2, 3, and 4 are available as a set as specified in the U.S. Standards for Grades of Peanut Butter, U.S. Grade "A" and "B". Year 1997 edition.  
Price: **\$106.00**

### **CANNED PIMIENTOS**

USDA Color Standards in the form of a bi-colored laminated color chip. Represents both Pimiento Red and Pimiento Reddish-yellow as specified in the U.S. Standards for Grades of Canned Pimientos. May 1996 and June 2003 editions.  
Price: **\$75.00**

### **FROZEN PEAS**

USDA Color Standards in the form of six laminated color chips. Applicable to the U.S. Standards for Grades of Frozen Peas. Colors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 are available as a set. April 2003 edition.  
Price: **\$110.00**

### **CANNED CLINGSTONE PEACHES**

USDA Color Standards in plastic 2 x 3 inch plates. Colors CLA, CLB, and CLC are available as a set, applicable to the U.S. Standards for Grades of Canned Clingstone Peaches, U.S. Grade "A", "B", and "C". January 2001 edition.  
Price: **\$108.00**

## **II. OTHER GUIDES AND INSPECTION AIDS**

### **HEADSPACE GAUGE (Part no. 10769-00)**

Plastic device used to measure headspace in canned foods for the determination of fill of container. Increments measured in 1/32 inch.

Wilkens-Anderson Company  
4525 West Division Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60651  
Telephone: (773) 384-4433  
fax: (773) 384-6260

Price: **\$20.00**

## **CONTACT PROCESSED PRODUCTS BRANCH FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

### **CANNED APPLESAUCE TEST KIT (Inspection Aid #103)**

USDA flowsheet, cylinder, and scraper. A flat chart with defect and flow measurement areas defined on the surface; a clear hollow cylinder; and a clear scraper, with 3/16 inch-depth cut-out all made of polycarbonate material. For use in testing the consistency of applesauce and measuring defects applicable to the U.S. Standards for Grades of Canned Applesauce. Available as a set. January 2002 edition.

Price: **\$130.00**

### **USDA GRADING PLATE FOR TOMATO CATSUP AND APPLE BUTTER (Inspection Aid #104)**

A plastic plate used to evaluate products for defects, seeds, and peel present in a specific volume. Applicable to the U.S. Standards for Grades of Tomato Catsup and U.S. Standards for Grades of Apple Butter.

Price: **\$85.00**

### **UNIVERSAL SIZER (Inspection Aid #105)**

A plastic device used for the inspection of commodities with a specific size requirement. Sizes for measuring frozen and canned lima beans, peas, cherries, canned white potatoes, frozen strawberries, dried figs, processed raisins, and prunes. Available as a set.

Price: **\$110.00**

## **INDIVIDUAL SIZERS**

Single sizers specifically for the following commodities: canned and frozen peas, green and wax beans, frozen strawberries, canned and frozen asparagus, and canned olives.

Price: **\$0.00** for single unit.

## **AREA MEASUREMENT GUIDE (Inspection Aid #30)**

Plastic measurement guide for measuring defects in fruits and vegetables. Available for measuring in metric or English units. Pocket size is available also.

Price: **\$0.00**

## **PHOTO-GUIDE FOR FROZEN GREEN AND WAX BEANS (PG-2)**

Updated October 2001 edition in loose-leaf binder containing color photos depicting defects in frozen green and wax beans. The photo-guide was updated to reflect changes to the U.S. Standards for Grades of Frozen Green and Wax Beans that became effective in August 1996.

Price: **\$70.00**

## **PHOTO-GUIDE FOR FROZEN CARROTS (PG-10)**

Updated April 2005 edition containing color photographs illustrating color and defects in frozen carrots in a bound booklet. PG-10 replaces PG-3 when evaluating frozen carrots.

Price: **\$85.00**

## **THE FOLLOWING COLOR STANDARDS ARE NO LONGER AVAILABLE BUT ARE STILL APPLICABLE**

1. Sugarcane Sirup (**previously supplied by VIRTIS COMPANY**). Use USDA color standards for honey, "White," "Extra Light Amber," and "Light Amber" for sugar cane sirup designations No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3, respectively.
2. Sulphur Brined Cherries (**previously supplied by MUNSELL COLOR COMPANY**)
3. Canned Freestone Peaches (**previously supplied by AGTRON, INCORPORATED**)



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